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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Report: Global Markets in Strong Position to Weather Tariffs Amid Shifting Alliances

A tariff maelstrom emanating from the United States hasn't managed to throw the world's emerging markets—including some notable American adversaries—into turmoil. Instead, many have found themselves well-positioned for resilience, according to risk intelligence company Verisk Maplecroft.

The group's analysis observed 20 global supply chain hubs and their ability to weather the volatility of the modern trade landscape. The criteria analyzes a market's dependence on the U.S., its current tariff rates (and the state of relations with the current administration in Washington), as well as its economic and political standing, its regulations, its infrastructure and its labor and consumer force.

Not surprisingly, China, the second largest economy in the world and the U.S.' most prominent competitor, was identified as the most resilient of all emerging markets studied, underscoring its long-held title of "The World's Factory."

Despite seeing the highest exposure to U.S.-originating geopolitical tensions, the country's exposure to global trade volatility was assessed as relatively low. In the wake of the ongoing and sometimes tense standoff with the U.S., China has forged stronger trade partnerships with other nations across Asia and deepened ties to the BRICS Alliance, which includes Brazil, Russia, India, South Africa, Egypt, Indonesia, the United Arab Emirates and more.

Other less-expected players also made the list, including fellow BRICS Alliance nation Brazil, along with Poland and Mexico, which followed close behind in the ranking. Countries like South Africa, along with Asian and South Asian nations like the Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam and India, all ranked moderately high when it comes to resistance to trade volatility, given the strength and maturity of their supply chains and their ability to pivot to other export markets.

Notably, Bangladesh and Egypt were among the outliers in that they saw moderately high risk. For Bangladesh, which was hit with 20 percent tariffs in August (down from the crushing 37 percent announced on “Liberation Day” in April), U.S. duties represent a perilous threat to the ready-made garment sector, which accounts for 80 percent of the country’s total export earnings.

“Economic nationalism and geopolitical competition between the U.S. and China will continue to inject uncertainty into business decision-making over the medium term,” Reema Bhattacharya, head of Asia research at Verisk Maplecroft, said. “Companies must rethink their strategies to maximize supply chains, diversify export destinations, and identify emerging markets that offer the best mix of incentives and low geopolitical exposure.”

According to the risk management firm, geopolitics stand to play a major role moving forward in defining trade opportunities for countries across the world—and influencing the formation of new trade blocs.

For example, the simmering tensions between the U.S. and China are prompting some “mid-tier” emerging markets to try and play both sides, “strengthening ties with the world’s two main geopolitical powers while avoiding overdependence on either,” analysts wrote. While many of those countries are courting President Donald Trump for better trade terms, they’re also attempting to mitigate risk by reducing reliance on American buyers.

Verisk Maplecroft said it projects that this “dual-track approach” will bring about new openings for business, with the BRICS Alliance gaining steam and precipitating some investment across Asia and Latin America, for example. Brazil, China and India—all members of the trade bloc—are in a “strong position,” the group believes.

China’s upsides are evident, but even Brazil and India, which both face tariffs of 50 percent or more from the U.S., show high levels of economic resilience. Meanwhile, Mexico and Vietnam, which came in No. 3 and No. 10, respectively, on the list, face some pressure because of their ties to China when it comes to manufacturing supply chains. Still, their tariff exposure is lower than some other markets.

Balancing geopolitical ties will become an integral part of many firms’ business strategies, Verisk Maplecroft wrote.

For example, India is considered the most (and perhaps only) U.S.-leaning member of the BRICS Alliance, even as it strengthens its ties with China and Russia, both on Washington's watch list (hello, Russian oil). Losing out on business with the U.S. has forced the country to explore deepening export ties with other big global economies, and it's chosen allies that leave it vulnerable to continued scrutiny. For this reason, analysts ranked India No. 3 in risk for geopolitical tensions with the U.S. out of 20 markets.

Brazil is also seeing some fraying of trade ties with the U.S. because of the former's national politics (Trump has lambasted the country's government for prosecuting its former president, an ally to the American president) and attempts to forge trade bonds that exclude the U.S. It's been pushing for a ratification of the EU-Mercosur agreement, which would draw down trade barriers and boost investment between Europe and the nations of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.

The formations of these alliances, which will result from ample wheeling and dealing in the months to come, are sure to upend the status quo even further when it comes to global trade.

As such, Bhattacharya warned that manufacturers "can no longer rely on the old playbook of optimizing for cost, efficiency, and demand alone."

"Understanding and monitoring geopolitical relations between countries is now a crucial aspect of risk management and strategy development for supply chains," she said.

Source: sourcingjournal.com– Nov 13, 2025

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Italian textile machinery orders decline by 16 % in Q3, FY25

The Italian textile machinery sector experienced a significant slowdown in Q3, FY25. As per figures compiled by the ACIMIT (Association of Italian Textile Machinery Manufacturers) Economics Department, the orders index declined by 16 per cent to settle at an absolute value of 41.8 points.

The decline was uniform across both key markets. Orders in the domestic market declined by 17 per cent with the index reaching 49.9 points while foreign orders contracted by 16 per cent to reach an index value of 40.7 points.

Acknowledging the challenging business climate, Marco Salvadè, President, ACIMIT, notes, overall demand remains weak with the decline in domestic order intake reflecting the difficult period being experienced by the textile supply chain in Italy.

Despite the negative quarterly performance, the sector maintains a stable order backlog, ensuring four months of guaranteed production,

While total order intake for the first nine months of 2025 declined, Salvadè points to pockets of resilience abroad. Official data for the first half of the year shows Italian textile machinery exports growing in key markets, including India, Pakistan, and Egypt.

Optimism has also been fueled by the recent conclusion of the main Asian trade show for textile machinery, ITMA ASIA + CITME 2025, held in Singapore. Salvadè expressed satisfaction with the event, stating that the 100 Italian exhibitors likely benefited from both the quantity and quality of visitors, generating promising business prospects.

He concluded by saying, the groundwork laid at the trade fair will translate into a stronger order intake within a geopolitical context marked by reduced uncertainty.

Source: fashionatingworld.com– Nov 12, 2025

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Mexico's apparel sourcing from Asia-Pacific tops \$4 bn in 3Q 2025

Mexico's apparel imports from the Asia-Pacific region reached \$4.016 billion during the first nine months (3Q) of 2025, contributing 79.98 per cent of the country's total apparel imports. The region also supplied over half of Mexico's total fabric imports in both value and volume terms, reinforcing its dominance in the country's textile supply chain due to competitive pricing, large-scale manufacturing capacity, and strong bilateral sourcing relationships.

Between January and September 2025, Mexico imported apparel worth \$5.022 billion, covering 1.530 billion garment pieces. Of this, 1.143 billion pieces—equivalent to 74.70 per cent of total import volume—originated from Asia-Pacific suppliers, according to sourcing intelligence tool TexPro. While the value share improved from 78.13 per cent in the corresponding period of 2024, the import volume dipped slightly from 1.242 billion pieces to 1.143 billion, indicating a higher average unit value as buyers shifted towards higher-value or better-quality product categories.

In comparison, apparel imports in the first nine months of 2024 were \$5.195 billion (1.692 billion pieces), of which the Asia-Pacific region accounted for \$4.059 billion or 78.13 per cent. On a full-year basis, Mexico imported apparel worth \$7.323 billion in 2024, including \$5.809 billion from the region (79.33 per cent share).

The annual trend suggests that Asia-Pacific's contribution has consistently remained close to 80 per cent since 2022, when total imports stood at \$6.948 billion, followed by \$6.531 billion in 2023 reflecting sustained reliance on Asian hubs for mass-market fashion, basics, and fast-moving apparel categories.

Mexico's fabric imports stood at \$2.030 billion during January–September 2025, amounting to 2.622 billion square metres. The Asia-Pacific region supplied \$1.034 billion worth of fabric, representing 50.94 per cent of total value, and 1.515 billion square metres, accounting for 57.79 per cent of total volume highlighting Asia's cost efficiency and wide assortment in woven, knitted, and synthetic fabrics.

In the same period last year, Mexico imported \$1.866 billion worth of fabric (3.238 billion square metres), including \$1.010 billion (54.15 per cent) and 1.736 billion square metres (53.62 per cent) from Asia-Pacific, as per TexPro. Although the region's value share has eased slightly, its volumetric dominance has grown—indicating increased sourcing of competitively priced fabrics as Mexican manufacturers attempt to optimise cost structures in export-oriented garment production.

For the full year 2024, fabric imports reached \$2.554 billion (3.978 billion square metres), with Asia-Pacific contributing \$1.402 billion (54.89 per cent) and 2.172 billion square metres (54.61 per cent). In previous years, Mexico's total fabric imports were \$2.626 billion in 2023 and \$2.792 billion in 2022, signalling a steady but moderate contraction in both value and volume driven by slower domestic consumption and cautious inventory management among manufacturers.

Asia-Pacific continues to underpin Mexico's textile and apparel manufacturing ecosystem, with China, Vietnam, Bangladesh, India, and Indonesia serving as leading suppliers across both categories. The region's enduring cost advantage, diversified product range, and established logistics networks ensure its central role in Mexico's fashion and garment sourcing strategies as brands seek stable supply, competitive lead times, and scalable production for both domestic and US-facing demand.

Source: fibre2fashion.com— Nov 14, 2025

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UK production output drops 0.5% QoQ during Q3 2025: ONS estimates

UK production output is estimated to have dropped by 0.5 per cent quarter on quarter (QoQ) during the third quarter (Q3) this year, according to the Office of National Statistics (ONS).

The largest negative contributor to the quarterly fall in Q3 came from manufacturing, which was down by 0.8 per cent QoQ; this was partially offset by increases in electricity and gas, which was up by 0.7 per cent QoQ.

Six of the 13 sub-sectors in manufacturing decreased during Q3 2025; among the largest negative contributors was the chemical products sector, which was down by 5.6 per cent QoQ, an ONS release said.

Monthly production output is estimated to have decreased by 2 per cent in September this year, following a month-on-month (MoM) rise of 0.3 per cent in August and a fall of 0.1 per cent MoM in July.

The monthly fall in September resulted from widespread weakness across the four main sectors, with manufacturing output down by 1.7 per cent MoM.

Seven of the 13 manufacturing sub-sectors saw a monthly decrease in September.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– Nov 14, 2025

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Is secondhand fashion the new fast fashion?

The fashion industry has long touted secondhand shopping as a silver bullet for sustainability, a movement that redefines style through reuse, reduces waste, and curbs overproduction. But a new US study, ‘Secondhand Fashion: Solution or New Illusion?’ by researchers Meital Peleg Mizrachi, Ph.D., and Ori Sharon, upends that comforting narrative. Its conclusion is as counterintuitive as it is unsettling: the booming resale market may not be mitigating fashion’s excess it may be accelerating it.

A circular dream with linear habits

The research, based on a survey of 1,009 respondents, paints a nuanced portrait of modern consumption. It reveals that the very consumers driving the secondhand boom are also leading to the growth of new apparel purchases. An important finding a +0.58 correlation between secondhand and new clothing spending suggests that for every rise in thrifted purchases, there’s a matching uptick in new ones.

In essence, the act of shopping secondhand has not replaced buying new; it has merely supplemented it. This finding challenges the bedrock assumption of circular fashion that every used garment purchased offsets the need for a new one. Instead, consumers appear to be using resale platforms like Depop, Poshmark, and ThredUp to justify more frequent wardrobe turnovers, much like fast fashion shoppers chasing the latest microtrend.

The fast fashion echo

The study’s behavioral data mirrors patterns once thought exclusive to fast fashion. Nearly 40 per cent of respondents admitted to owning clothing they’ve never worn, while 37.9 per cent discarded garments within a year and a troubling 14.2 per cent did so within just a month.

Return rates and the pace of purchase-to-disposal cycles among secondhand shoppers are alarmingly similar to those found in ultra-fast fashion environments. In short, the pre-loved economy is beginning to mimic the very system it set out to replace.

Mizrachi explains it as a psychological loop: “What we are witnessing is a rebound effect a behavioral response where the savings and moral satisfaction from buying used clothes translate into an even higher total consumption.”

The psychology of the ‘eco-excuse’

The study identifies two behavioral mechanisms that lie at the heart of this paradox the Rebound Effect and Moral Licensing.

The Rebound Effect: The lower price point and perceived eco-benefit of secondhand clothing make consumers feel both thrifty and ethical. However, this combination creates an unintended consequence it encourages them to buy more. The guilt-free feeling of sustainability becomes an open invitation to shop excessively. **Moral Licensing:** Consumers use secondhand purchases as a form of moral currency. After buying something good for the planet, they feel licensed to indulge in something bad like a haul from Zara or Shein. It’s an emotional balancing act, where virtue is used to offset vice.

This psychological duality is deeply embedded in modern consumption behavior. “We’re not just buying clothes anymore; we’re buying feelings,” notes Ori Sharon. “Secondhand platforms sell not only affordability but also identity the idea that one can be fashionable and ethical. The problem arises when that identity fuels more, not less, shopping.”

When circularity becomes an illusion

The global secondhand market valued at over \$200 billion by 2030, according to ThredUp’s projections is growing at a rate far faster than the overall apparel market. Brands from H&M to Levi’s and even luxury players like Balenciaga are launching resale programs. Yet, the new study warns that the industry’s celebration of circularity may be premature.

If resale platforms simply extend the life of garments without reducing total production or consumption, they risk reinforcing the same linear take-make-dispose pattern under a greener guise. The illusion of sustainability may, in fact, be the new marketing tool of overproduction. In other words, if consumers buy a thrifted top today and use that as justification to buy a new one tomorrow, the environmental impact remains largely unchanged if not worsened by the increased logistics of resale itself (shipping, repackaging, and platform-driven turnover).

The culture of more vs. the ethic of enough

The study's underlying message is not an indictment of secondhand fashion itself, but of the culture surrounding it. True circularity, the authors argue, can only emerge when society shifts from reuse as an excuse to reuse as restraint. This requires a cultural transformation one that prioritizes sufficiency over substitution, longevity over novelty, and care over collection. Some brands and platforms are already experimenting with this shift. UK-based Vinted, for instance, has begun promoting 'slow resale' campaigns that encourage consumers to hold onto items longer before reselling. Similarly, Patagonia's Worn Wear program emphasizes repair and responsible reuse rather than frequent reselling.

But these are exceptions in a landscape still dominated by speed and scale. As resale marketplaces evolve into algorithm-driven ecosystems, designed to maximize engagement and turnover, the moral challenge deepens. The system may be circular in name, but linear in intent.

A wake-up call for the industry

For fashion's sustainability advocates, the study is both a warning and an opportunity. The findings underscore the need to redefine what success looks like in the circular economy. It is not about the volume of garments recirculated, but the reduction in total consumption that truly matters.

Without that recalibration, secondhand fashion risks becoming fast fashion's mirror image faster, cheaper, and cloaked in green rhetoric. The authors conclude with a stark reminder: "Circularity is not about keeping products moving; it's about keeping them in use, and out of the waste stream, for as long as possible."

As resale apps continue to boom and the line between sustainability and style blurs, the fashion world must confront its paradox head-on: Can the pursuit of perpetual novelty ever coexist with the principles of sustainability? Until that question is resolved, the resale revolution will remain both a promise and a paradox a cycle that spins, but never truly closes.

Source: fashionatingworld.com— Nov 12, 2025

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Vietnam's clothing retail sales rise by 8.6% Y-o-Y from January-October 2025

The Vietnamese clothing retail market demonstrated continued resilience and growth during the first ten months of 2025.

Retail sales of clothing increased by 8.6 per cent Y-o-Y during the January-October 2025 period. This growth rate is generally viewed positively, indicating stable consumer demand for apparel and textile products within the domestic Vietnamese market.

This apparel growth occurred within the context of the overall retail market performance. The total retail sales of goods and services in Vietnam for the same January-October 2025 period typically shows a higher growth figure, often in the double digits, suggesting that while clothing sales are robust, they are sometimes outpaced by other consumer goods sectors.

The consistent growth in clothing retail sales is usually supported by several factors including an expanding middle-income population with higher disposable income, increased concentration of consumers in major cities with access to diverse retail channels and international tourism, particularly in major hubs like Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

While Vietnam is predominantly known as a global textile manufacturing and export hub, the growth in domestic retail sales is important because it helps diversify revenue streams for local producers, making them less reliant solely on international orders. It encourages the development of stronger local apparel brands and retail networks.

The 8.6 per cent growth confirms the domestic market remains a healthy and reliable source of demand for the nation's massive textile and garment industry.

Source: fashionatingworld.com– Nov 10, 2025

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Investors explore Ghana's textile-garment sector at Accra roadshow

Ghana's Ministry of Trade, Agribusiness and Industry (MoTAI) recently reaffirmed its commitment to attracting strategic investments into the country's textile and garment sector as part of efforts to boost industrialisation and job creation under the 24-Hour Economy and Accelerated Export Development Programme.

In collaboration with key partners, including Germany's GIZ, the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC), Ghana Free Zones Authority (GFZA), Ghana Export Promotion Authority (GEPA), Jobs for Economic Transformation (JET), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), and the International Labour Organization (ILO), the ministry hosted the Inbound Textiles and Apparel Roadshow from November 10 to 12 in Accra.

The roadshow followed successful engagements with international investors at the Munich Fabric Start and the Textiles and Garments Roadshow in Germany, organised by GIZ earlier this year, the ministry said in a recent Facebook post.

It aimed at showcasing Ghana as West Africa's leading destination for ethical and sustainable apparel production.

Highlights of the three-day event included visits to leading garment factories and industrial parks, policy presentations by government officials, matchmaking sessions with domestic manufacturers and a networking cocktail with industry stakeholders and diplomats.

Head of the country's Strategic Anchor Directorate Kwasi Antwi presented a draft policy framework at the event for the development of the textile and garment industry, outlining key government interventions to enhance competitiveness and value addition

The ministry is optimistic that the roadshow will strengthen Ghana's position as a competitive hub for apparel manufacturing in Africa, creating decent jobs and boosting non-traditional exports.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– Nov 13, 2025

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Vietnam's budget revenue from import-export up 9.3% YoY in Jan-Oct

The Vietnamese government's budget revenue from import and export in the first ten months this year reached 379.8 trillion VND (~\$14.4 billion), its Department of Customs recently announced.

The total trade was 92.4 per cent of the annual estimate and 80.8 per cent of the targeted goal, marking a 9.3-per cent increase year on year (YoY).

Total import-export turnover during the period was worth \$762.5 billion—up by 17.4 per cent (or \$112.74 billion) YoY—resulting in a trade surplus of \$19.6 billion.

However, illegal transit and re-export activities involving counterfeit products continue, particularly at the border points with China, Laos and Cambodia, a domestic news agency reported.

Source: fibre2fashion.com— Nov 13, 2025

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NATIONAL NEWS

Secretary, Ministry of Textiles Reviews Activities of Textile Institutions, Export Councils, and Research Associations in Mumbai



Smt. Neelam Shami Rao, Secretary Ministry of Textiles and Chairperson, Textiles Committee, began her comprehensive two-day visit to Mumbai from today, to review the ongoing programmes, institutional performance, and policy implementation progress of various bodies functioning under the Ministry of Textiles. On the first day of her visit, she reviewed activities related to handlooms and allied sectors, accompanied by Dr. M. Beena, Development Commissioner (Handlooms).

During the visit, Secretary Interacted with Ms Anshu Sinha, IAS, Principal Secretary (Textiles) Government of Maharashtra and other senior officers from Government of Maharashtra and deliberated on bringing in synergy with both state and central implementation of central schemes in the state of Maharashtra and discussed the issues affecting the growth of the sector in the state.

The visit commenced with a detailed review meeting at the Textiles Committee, where the Secretary examined the activities of the organisation vis-à-vis the functions envisaged in the Textiles Committee Act, 1963 by the founding fathers of the Textiles Committee and advised to restructure and reorient its activities so as to meet the objectives of the Act and support the industry to meet the visions of the Ministry of Textiles.

She emphasized the growing needs of the industry in scientific, technical & economic research and attributed the functions of the Textiles Committee to these and advised to realign the priorities to meet the aspirations of both the industry and government. The TC should act like a link between the industry and government by providing inputs on the ground realities of the sector so as to help the industry to mitigate these with the help of policy interventions from the Ministry of Textiles.

Following this, Smt. Rao visited the Synthetic & Art Silk Mills' Research Association (SASMIRA). The review centered on SASMIRA's ongoing R&D in technical textiles, man-made fibers, and green textile innovations.

The Secretary appreciated SASMIRA's contributions to training & education, promoting technical textile applications, industrial testing facilities, and capacity-building programs aimed at strengthening the synthetic sector's competitiveness. She emphasized the need to align SASMIRA's research activities with global sustainability and recycling objectives.

At the Weavers Service Centre (WSC), Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Smt. Rao and Dr. Beena reviewed the implementation of major schemes including the National Handloom Development Programme, Cluster Development Programme, and marketing interventions such as exhibitions, design innovation, and digital platforms for weavers. The Secretary highlighted the importance of technology integration, e-commerce enablement, and handloom mark promotion to expand the domestic and export reach of India's handloom products.

Subsequently, the delegation visited the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL), where interactions were held with representatives from the cotton textile export sector. The discussions focused on export competitiveness, diversification of markets, Kasturi Cotton Bharat and the promotion of value-added cotton textile products. Smt. Rao appreciated TEXPROCIL's proactive role in supporting exporters through trade fairs, buyer-seller meets, and international branding initiatives.

A similar review meeting was held at the Man-made Textiles Export Promotion Council (MATEXIL). The Secretary reviewed export performance trends, challenges faced by synthetic and blended textile exporters, and strategies to enhance global visibility for Indian man-made fibers. She encouraged the Council to adopt sustainability-driven export models and to leverage FTAs and trade pacts for greater market access.

In the evening, the Secretary held a comprehensive review meeting at the Office of the Textile Commissioner, focusing on key flagship schemes of the Ministry such as the PM MITRA Parks Scheme, Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles, and SAMARTH – Skill Development Scheme. After in the evening, Smt. Rao will chair a meeting with major industry associations, engaging leading representatives from across the textile value chain to discuss policy feedback, sustainability initiatives, and investment promotion.

Source: pib.gov.in – Nov 13, 2025

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Govt approves Export Promotion Mission with outlay of ₹25,060 crore for six years

The government on Wednesday (November 12, 2025) approved an Export Promotion Mission with an outlay of ₹25,060 crore for six financial years, beginning this fiscal, a move which will help exporters deal with high tariffs imposed by the U.S.

The mission will be implemented through two sub-schemes — Niryat Protsahan (₹10,401 crore) and Niryat Disha (₹14,659 crore).

It is a very comprehensive mission and it will support the complete export ecosystem, information and broadcasting minister Ashwini Vaishnav told reporters here.

Under the mission, priority support will be extended to sectors impacted by recent global tariff escalations, such as textiles, leather, gems and jewellery, engineering goods, and marine products.

The measure will help insulate domestic exporters from the high tariffs imposed by the U.S. on Indian goods. The U.S. has imposed a hefty 50% tariff on Indian goods, starting August 27.

Under Niryat Protsahan, focus will be given to improve access to affordable trade finance for MSMEs through a range of instruments such as interest subvention, export factoring, collateral guarantees, credit cards for e-commerce exporters, and credit enhancement support for diversification into new markets.

Similarly under the Niryat Disha, focus will be there on non-financial enablers that enhance market readiness and competitiveness, including export quality and compliance support, assistance for international branding, packaging, and participation in trade fairs, export warehousing and logistics, inland transport reimbursements, and trade intelligence and capacity-building initiatives.

It is expected to facilitate access to affordable trade finance for MSMEs, enhance export readiness through compliance and certification support, and improve market access and visibility for Indian products.

The mission is designed to directly address structural challenges that constrain Indian exports, including limited and expensive trade finance access, high cost of compliance with international export standards, inadequate export branding and fragmented market access, and logistical disadvantages for exporters in interior and low-export-intensity regions.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) will act as the implementing agency, with all processes — from application to disbursal — being managed through a dedicated digital platform integrated with existing trade systems.

India's exports grew 6.74% to \$36.38 billion in September, while imports jumped 16.6%, widening the trade deficit to \$31.15 billion, the highest in over a year.

Cumulatively, during April-September this year, exports increased by 3.02% to \$220.12 billion, while imports rose 4.53% to \$375.11 billion, leaving a trade deficit of \$154.99 billion.

Source: thehindu.com– Nov 12, 2025

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Govt scraps 14 quality control orders textile units to benefit

The government has withdrawn Quality Control Orders (QCOs) for fourteen petrochemical products that are used as inputs in a wide array of sectors from textiles to high performance plastics.

The scrapping of the QCOs will come as a relief for the user industries, as it would have access to wider sources for these products. The QCOs, which apply equally to domestic manufacturing and imports, would have limited the number of suppliers of these products.

Under the QCOs the suppliers of products covered by the order have to get their manufacturing facilities and output certified before they can sell in India. This involves costs and time. Many overseas suppliers drop out of the process, limiting the number of suppliers for Indian industry. The number of QCOs has surged from fewer than 70 in 2016 to nearly 790 by 2025, most introduced in the past five years.

The products covered by the recent order withdrawing the QCOs include 100% polyester spun grey and white yarn, polyester industrial yarn, polyester staple fibres, polyvinyl chloride homopolymers, terephthalic acid and polyurethanes and polycarbonate.

“The rescinding of the Quality Control Orders (QCOs) on polyester fibre and yarn comes as a great relief, as it has been a long-awaited demand of all the user industries. Polyester fibre and polyester yarn form most of the man-made fibre (MMF) products, and hence, this measure by the authorities will contribute to the growth of the MMF segment in India,” chairman of Confederation of Indian textile Industry Ashwin Chandran said.

The removal of the QCOs will also improve the cost competitiveness of Indian textile and apparel products by making it easier to obtain raw materials at internationally competitive prices.

Coupled with the Export Package announced on November 12, the rescinding of these QCOs will act as a huge confidence-booster for the textile and apparel sector, he added.

India's QCOs were designed to raise product quality and protect consumers, but their implementation has stirred debate as businesses are struggling with compliance costs, import delays, and supply shortages.

On complaints by the industry on the onerous compliance burden a high-level panel headed by NITI Aayog member Rajiv Gauba was set up to review this system. According to reports the panel has suggested scrapping or deferring more than 200 QCOs. It also recommended an overhaul of the QCO regime.

The Committee found that India's rapid expansion of QCOs—though aimed at improving quality — led to supply shortages, higher input costs, and long certification delays, especially for MSMEs. Many QCOs cover raw materials that pose no direct safety or environmental risk, making such regulation unnecessary.

The Committee noted that most countries use voluntary or buyer-based standards, while India's overregulation has distorted manufacturing and trade efficiency.

Source: financialexpress.com– Nov 13, 2025

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\$100 billion trade target by 2030: India, Russia discuss ways to boost bilateral ties; marine and pharma products in focus

India has urged Russia to expedite the approval of domestic establishments and registration of marine and pharmaceutical products to further strengthen bilateral trade ties. During his visit to Moscow, Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal highlighted opportunities for expanding trade and proposed measures to improve market access, the commerce ministry said in an official statement on Thursday.

“The issues included expedited listing of Indian establishments and a systems-based approach with FSVPS in agriculture, especially marine products, and a time-bound pathway in pharmaceuticals covering registration, regulatory reliance, and predictable timelines,” it said, as quoted by news agency PTI.

Piyush Goyal Sends Strong Reply To Donald Trump, Says India Wants Fair But Balanced Trade Agreement

FSVPS refers to the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Supervision of Russia. According to the ministry, a comprehensive protocol for trade and economic collaboration across various sectors was finalised and signed during Agrawal’s meeting with Vladimir Ilyichev, Deputy Minister of Economic Development of Russia. Agrawal was in Moscow to attend the 26th Meeting of the India-Russia Working Group on Trade and Economic Cooperation.

Currently, bilateral trade stands at \$25 billion, with both nations aiming to raise it to \$100 billion by 2030. The working group identified several potential areas for trade expansion, including engineering goods, chemicals and plastics, electronics, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, leather, and textiles.

It also underscored India’s strengths in smartphones, motor vehicles, gems and jewellery, organic chemicals, textiles, and leather, which could complement Russia’s trade diversification strategy. In the services sector, India encouraged greater participation of Russian entities in IT-BPM, healthcare, education, and creative industries, while seeking smoother mobility for Indian professionals to meet Russia’s labour market needs.

India also showcased its Global Capability Centre (GCC) ecosystem, comprising over 1,700 centres employing around 1.9 million professionals, as a platform for Russian firms to enhance business continuity, cybersecurity, design and analytics, and shared services.

The ministry added that India acknowledged Russia's interest in a bilateral investment treaty. "Both sides agreed to explore payments solutions to meet the needs for businesses, especially medium, small and micro enterprises," it said.

Source: timesofindia.com– Nov 14, 2025

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Exporters seek details of ₹25,000-cr export promotion mission, its early implementation

Facing continued global headwinds, including the crippling impact of US tariffs, exporters want the government to immediately issue guidelines detailing the schemes and benefits under the long-awaited ₹25,000 crore export promotion mission (EPM) cleared by the Union Cabinet on Wednesday. They want the Export Promotion Mission (EPM) to be operationalised soon, ensuring timely disbursements of benefits through digitisation.

Some experts point out that the EPM's total outlay of ₹25,060 crore, spread over six financial years, amounting to an annual ₹4,200 crore may be insufficient. The interest equalisation scheme alone cost over ₹3,500 crore last year, and very little funds may be left, they say.

"It is important that the EPM gets translated into immediate policy announcements, so that we can take advantage of schemes such as market access and interest subvention. There will be more preference for sectors affected by US tariffs of 50 per cent (such as textiles, gems and jewellery, marine, engineering goods, leather products). So, I think, textiles should gain substantially," said Sanjay Jain, MD, TT Ltd.

All mechanisms have to be fully automated under the EPM. In the past exporters, have had to wait for long for their reimbursements, with payments still pending for some under market access initiative, Jain pointed out.

"Some of the initiatives in the EPM are new and, thus the contours of such schemes have to be drawn; the procedure needs to be notified; and digital interface is required to be developed for seamless implementation," pointed out Ajay Sahai, DG, Federation of Indian Export Organisations.

Sahai appreciated the fact that the EPM allocation was for six financial years. "It will help both exporters and export organisations to plan well in advance from the next year onwards helping everyone," he said.

It is important to know the details of the EPM for a complete understanding of how it would impact exporters, said said Israr Ahmed, a prominent exporter of leather products, hoping the details would happen soon.

“The timing of the scheme is good as it has been cleared when exporters are also hoping for a US deal and reduction in US tariffs. This could be a double bonanza. But we don’t yet know the details of the scheme,” said Ahmed.

Exporters are eager to know the details of the mission as they want clarity on popular schemes, such as the interest equalisation scheme, which was allowed to lapse on December 31, 2024, and the Market Access Initiative, under which many exporters are still awaiting disbursements from past approvals.

Affordable trade finance

The EPM statement highlighted that it would provide affordable trade finance for MSMEs through interest subvention, export factoring, collateral guarantees, credit cards for e-commerce exporters, and credit enhancement support for diversification into new markets, but details were not shared.

The funds allocated under the scheme may be a concern as an annual outlay of ₹4,200 crore could fall short, pointed out Ajay Srivastava from research body GTRI. Last year alone, the IES cost more than ₹3,500 crore, leaving very limited funds for the many activities, such as branding, packaging, trade fairs, compliance, and logistics. The financial resources do not match the mission’s ambition,” he said.

Source: thehindubusinessline.com– Nov 13, 2025

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Cabinet approves Credit Guarantee Scheme for Exporters (CGSE)

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi today approved introduction of Credit Guarantee Scheme for Exporters (CGSE) for providing 100% credit guarantee coverage by National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Limited (NCGTC) to Member Lending Institutions (MLIs) for extending additional credit facilities upto Rs.20,000 crore to eligible exporters, including MSMEs.

Implementation strategy and targets:

The scheme shall be implemented by Department of Financial Services (DFS) through National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Limited (NCGTC) to provide additional credit support by MLIs to the eligible exporters including MSMEs.

A management Committee formed under the chairmanship of Secretary, DFS will oversee the progress and implementation of the scheme.

Major Impact:

The Scheme is expected to enhance the global competitiveness of Indian exporters and support diversification into new and emerging markets. By enabling collateral-free credit access under CGSE, it will be strengthen liquidity, ensure smooth business operations, reinforce India's progress towards achieving the USD 1 trillion export target. This will further reinforce India's journey towards Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

Background:

Exports are a critical pillar of the Indian economy, accounting for nearly 21% of GDP in FY 2024-25 and contributing significantly to foreign exchange reserves.

Export-oriented industries directly and indirectly employ over 45 million people and MSMEs contributing nearly 45% of total exports. Sustained export growth has been instrumental in supporting India's current account balance and macroeconomic stability.

It is important to extend enhanced financial assistance and adequate time to exporters for diversifying their markets and enhance global competitiveness of Indian exporters. Accordingly, proactive Government intervention to provide additional liquidity support will ensure business growth and also enable expansion of markets.

Source: pib.gov.in– Nov 12, 2025

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India's Textile Exports Shows Resilience and Diversification; Growth recorded in exports to 111 Countries

India's Textile & Apparel, including handicrafts exports, demonstrated remarkable resilience in the first half of FY 2025-26 despite global headwinds and tariff-related challenges in major markets. India's global exports of textiles, apparel and made ups grew marginally by 0.1% during April–September 2025, compared to the corresponding period in 2024.

Some of the large export markets for India which clocked impressive growth rates were UAE (14.5%), UK (1.5%), Japan (19.0%), Germany (2.9%), Spain (9.0%) and France (9.2%). On the other hand, some of the other markets that recorded higher growth rates were Egypt (27%), Saudi Arabia (12.5%), Hong Kong (69%) etc.

These 111 markets contributed USD 8,489.08 million during April–September 2025, compared to USD 7,718.55 million in the previous year—reflecting a 10% growth and an absolute increase of USD 770.3 million.

The key sectors driving this growth included:

Ready Made Garments (RMG) of all Textiles – 3.42% growth
Jute – 5.56% growth

This performance highlights the sector's adaptability and competitiveness in the face of global uncertainties.

India's continued expansion into non-traditional markets reinforces the Government's policy focus on export diversification, value addition, and global market integration under the "Make in India" and "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" initiatives.

Source: pib.gov.in – Nov 12, 2025

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India and Canada Hold 7th Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment to Strengthen Bilateral Economic Partnership

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, and the Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development of Canada, Maninder Sidhu, co-chaired the 7th India–Canada Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment (MDTI) in New Delhi today.

The meeting marked a renewed phase of engagement aimed at reinvigorating bilateral trade and investment ties and setting a forward-looking agenda for cooperation, in line with the Joint Statement, “Renewing Momentum towards a Stronger Partnership” of 13th October 2025, which identified trade as the cornerstone of bilateral economic growth and resilience.

The Ministers reaffirmed the enduring strength of the India–Canada relationship, anchored in shared democratic values, cultural diversity, and growing economic complementarities. They highlighted the vital role of the vibrant Indian diaspora of nearly 2.9 million and over 427,000 Indian students in Canada, whose contributions continue to enrich both societies and serve as a bridge fostering deeper understanding, innovation, and economic collaboration.

Bilateral trade in goods and services between India and Canada stood at USD 18.38 billion in 2023. The Ministers welcomed the steady rise in two-way investments, and reaffirmed their commitment to fostering an open, transparent, and predictable business environment that supports sustainable and inclusive growth.

The Ministerial Dialogue covered a wide-ranging agenda encompassing key areas of economic cooperation. Discussions focused on strengthening bilateral economic ties and advancing sectoral collaboration across priority domains, including nutritional security, supply chain resilience, health sector cooperation, and investment facilitation.

The Ministers also reviewed recent trade policy developments, covering trade in goods and services, and exchanged views to enhance market access, promote regulatory alignment, and support long-term economic resilience.

Concluding the dialogue, the Ministers reaffirmed their shared vision to renew and revitalize the India–Canada economic partnership, grounded in mutual respect, trust, and a spirit of collaboration.

They agreed to translate today’s constructive discussions into tangible outcomes that advance shared prosperity and reflect the depth and dynamism, to define India–Canada relations.

Source: pib.gov.in– Nov 13, 2025

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North India cotton yarn demand weak; QCO impact yet to be seen

North India's cotton yarn market continued to face sluggish demand from the downstream industry. Delhi and Ludhiana markets reported stable cotton yarn prices, but sentiment remained weak. Market experts said there were no signs of improved buying from the weaving sector. Payment constraints also remained a major concern. Traders added that funds were being diverted to more lucrative markets like equity, which further slowed payment flows. The recent withdrawal of QCOs on the polyester value chain had no immediate effect on Panipat's recycled yarn market, with traders expecting any noticeable impact only after two to three weeks.

Delhi's cotton yarn market continued to struggle with weak demand and persistent payment issues. Spinning mills were looking to raise yarn prices in anticipation of better summer-season demand, but buyers were not offering the required support. A Delhi-based trader told Fibre2Fashion, "Buyers remained silent on bulk purchases. They are buying only small quantities. The payment crisis is also denting buying interest. Funds are being diverted to more lucrative markets like equity. The payment crisis is affecting the buying capacity of the consumer industry."

In Delhi, 30 count combed knitting yarn was traded at ₹250-252 (~\$2.82-2.84) per kg (GST extra), 40 counts combed at ₹277-279 (~\$3.12-3.15) per kg, 30 count carded at ₹224-226 (~\$2.53-2.55) per kg, and 40 count carded at ₹249-252 (~\$2.81-2.84) per kg today.

Ludhiana's market also witnessed weakness in cotton yarn. Buyers remained largely inactive. Slow demand persisted due to payment constraints. According to market sources, the downstream industry is shifting its focus from winter to summer garments, and cotton yarn consumption typically rises in the summer season. However, slow payment flows are limiting yarn lifting in the market.

In Ludhiana, 30 count cotton combed yarn was sold at ₹247-257 (~\$2.79-2.90) per kg (inclusive of GST); 20 and 25 count combed yarn were traded at ₹237-247 (~\$2.67-2.79) per kg and ₹242-252 (~\$2.73-2.84) per kg, respectively; and carded yarn of 30 count was noted at ₹227-232 (~\$2.56-2.62) per kg today, according to trade sources.

Panipat's recycled yarn market continued to reflect a bearish tone due to several issues. Labour shortages have reduced recycled yarn consumption in the downstream industry. Payment constraints have further dampened traders' buying interest. However, recycled yarn and raw material prices remained stable. The withdrawal of QCOs on the polyester value chain has not yet impacted Panipat's home textile segment. Traders said it may take at least three weeks for any effect to be seen on recycled polyester-cotton yarn and polyester fibre.

In Panipat, 10s recycled PC yarn (Grey) was traded at ₹73-76 (~\$0.82-0.86) per kg (GST paid). Other varieties and counts were noted at 10s recycled PC yarn (Black) at ₹55-58 (~\$0.62-0.65) per kg, 20s recycled PC yarn (Grey) at ₹97-100 (~\$1.09-1.13) per kg and 30s recycled PC yarn (Grey) at ₹127-132 (~\$1.43-1.49) per kg. Meanwhile, 10s recycled cotton yarn were traded at ₹107-108 (~\$1.21-1.22) per kg and 18s recycled cotton yarn ₹135-136 (~\$1.52-1.53) per kg. Cotton comber prices were noted at ₹109-111 (~\$1.23-1.25) per kg and recycled polyester fibre (PET bottle fibre) at ₹77-82 (~\$0.87-0.92) per kg today.

Across north India, sluggish demand persisted in cotton yarn, and prices fell by ₹10-20 per maund of 37.2 kg. Traders said falling ICE cotton prices have dampened sentiment in domestic markets. Spinning mills are buying cotton cautiously with greater price sensitivity. Slow demand for cotton yarn has also discouraged mills from active fibre procurement. Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) was likewise slow in purchasing seed cotton from farmers at the minimum support price (MSP).

North India recorded cotton arrivals of 19,500 bales, including 1,000 bales in Punjab, 4,500 bales in Haryana, 7,000 bales in upper Rajasthan, and 7,000 bales in lower Rajasthan. Cotton prices were noted as ₹5,180-5,210 (~\$58.30-58.87) per maund of 37.2 kg in Punjab, ₹4,970-5,020 (~\$56.05-56.61) in Haryana, ₹5,170-5,220 (~\$58.22-58.89) in Upper Rajasthan, and ₹49,300-₹52,100 (~\$555.95-587.53) per candy of 356 kg. Seed cotton was sold between ₹6,700-₹7,200 (~\$76.75-81.19) per quintal of 100 kg.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– Nov 13, 2025

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India's CPI inflation rate 0.25% in Oct: Provisional official data

India's consumer price index (CPI)-based inflation rate was 0.25 per cent in October this year, according to provisional estimates by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

There is a drop of 119 basis points in the October headline inflation compared to September. It is the lowest year-on-year (YoY) inflation of the current CPI series.

The decline in headline inflation during the month is mainly attributed to full month's impact of decline in goods and services tax, a favourable base effect and a drop in inflation of oils and fats, vegetables, fruits, eggs, footwear, cereals and products, transport and communication.

Headline inflation in rural areas was minus 0.25 per cent in October, as per provisional figures, while it was minus 1.07 per cent in September this year.

Headline inflation in urban areas decreased from 1.83 per cent in September to 0.88 per cent in October.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– Nov 13, 2025

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